

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/079,412

Examiner

Michael Cuff

Applicant(s)

SUGIMOTO ET AL.

Art Unit

3627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 2/22/06 e-mail.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-8,16 and 17.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Richard Gollhofer on 2/22/06.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 9-11, 13 and 15 have been canceled.

New Claims 16 and 17 have been added as follows

-- 16. A computer-readable medium stored with a detailed statement notifying program executed by a computer communicable with a consumer terminal of a consumer who makes a transaction regarding buying an article with a seller selling the article, to perform a method comprising:

storing transaction information on each transaction of the article between the consumer and the seller, the transaction information including identification information of a party concerned with the transaction;

determining that present time is within a warrantee period for the article offered by the party whose identification information is included in the transaction information;

in response to said determining, obtaining logo information for showing a logo utilized by the party whose identification information is included in the transaction information;

generating detailed statement information for displaying the detailed statement of the transaction of the merchandise on a display of the consumer terminal, into which the logo information is incorporated so as to show the logo related to a content of the transaction information, based on the transaction information; and

transmitting the detailed statement information to the consumer terminal.

17. (new) A detailed statement display method for displaying information about a transaction between a consumer buying an article and a seller selling the article, said method comprising:

storing transaction information on each transaction of the article between the consumer and the seller, the transaction information including identification information of a party concerned with the transaction;

determining that present time is within a warrantee period for the article offered by the party whose identification information is included in the transaction information;

in response to said determining, obtaining logo information for showing a logo utilized by the party whose identification information is included in the transaction information;

generating a detailed statement screen for the detailed statement of the transaction of the merchandise on a display of the consumer terminal, into which the logo information is incorporated so as to show the logo related to a content of the transaction information, based on the transaction information; and

displaying the generated detailed statement screen.

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Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 3-8 and 16-17 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Independent claims 1, 8, 16, and 17 recite storing transaction information, determining that the present time is within a warrantee period, then in response to the determining obtaining logo information, generating and transmitting a detailed statement with transaction and logo information. None of the prior art shows or teaches these limitations. Kramer et al. is the closest prior art, which shows a transaction statement with logo information. However, Kramer has nothing to do with warrantees. Claims 3-7 are dependent upon claim 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Fransak et al. is the closest non-patent reference found during the search, but the date of 2001 leaves it ambiguous as to if it could be used as a valid source for rejection. Korean reference Son does not meet the priority date of the application and is made of record as merely being the closest foreign reference found.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Cuff whose telephone number is (571) 272-6778. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 to 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alexander Kalinowski can be reached on (571) 272-6771. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

 3/3/06
Michael Cuff
March 3, 2006